

August 27, 1996

AUG 30 1996

Lester Snow
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Lester:

The California Striped Bass Association State Board President, Ralph Draudson, wrote to you on April 24, 1996 to express several concerns with respect to the 10 Draft Alternatives. No response was ever received to Mr. Draudson's letter nor was its receipt acknowledged.

The CalFed process has now proceeded to Phase II, and there is no indication that the apparent CalFed policy to "supplant" the striped bass has not carried over into the Draft Phase II Alternatives.

We are concerned that, while the CalFed process invites participation and comment by the public and by stakeholders, no consideration is being given to our input. The CSBA was established 22 years ago for the express purpose of promoting the conservation of the striped bass after years of detrimental effects from the state and federal water projects. The CSBA has seven chapters from Sacramento to Fresno. We represent the interests of the sport fishing public which includes the nearly 500,000 anglers who purchased striped bass stamps annually during the California Fish and Game stamp program. We work closely with the Department of Fish and Game in promoting the interests of the striped bass. We are actively involved in the Striped Bass Stamp Fund Advisory Committee whose projects directly benefit all sport fishing species. For example, the Striped Bass Stamp Fund Committee provides funding for the purchase of equipment which provides necessary resources to Fish and Game wardens to more effectively apprehend and prosecute poachers. This equipment ranges from high definition night vision scopes and digital cameras to radios and boats. As you can see, it is important that we receive adequate information from CalFed so that we may report to the stakeholders we represent.

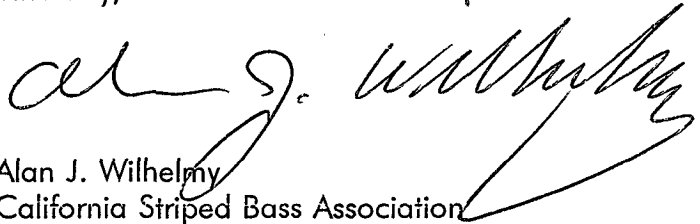
The CSBA would appreciate a written response from CalFed to either confirm or correct the prior apparent objective of the Program to supplant the striped bass.

We also ask that you respond to our request that CalFed confirm that the pen-rearing program will not be limited to a maximum of 100,000 fish per year, as referenced in previous draft materials.

Alan J. Wilhelmy
2033 North Main Street, Suite 900
Walnut Creek, CA 94596 ♦ (510) 934-7700

Finally, the striped bass are critically dependent upon adequate water flows, particularly during their spring and summer spawning. The selected CalFed alternative must include some type of program to address this need. Please provide us with a summary of the present CalFed staff thinking on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan J. Wilhelmy".

Alan J. Wilhelmy
California Striped Bass Association
CalFed Representative

AJW:lgc

cc: CSBA State Board
John Beuttler, United Anglers